

Amendments to the Claims

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation solution to be administered to a patient for at least one of diagnosis and treatment of tissue or a cell lesion followed by localized irradiation using a beam emitted by a source of light energy, the pharmaceutical preparation comprising:

a physiologically acceptable solvent; and

an ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) for generating protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) which is present in the solution pharmaceutical preparation at a concentration of less than 1 % by weight.

20. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein the concentration of the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) in the solution ranges between 0.01 % by weight to 0.5% by weight.

21. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) is a hexylester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (h-ALA).

22. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) is dissolved in a solvent which is compatible with a human organism.

23. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 22, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of sterilized water, physiological NaCl solution, and a phosphate buffer solution and alcohol.

24. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 22, wherein the solution contains a component to adjust the pH of the solution to a physiological value ranging from about 4.8 to about 8.1.

25. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein the solution comprises a complementary substance for preventing transformation of the protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) into a heme by iron complexing in the cells.

26. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 25, wherein the complementary substance is ethylene diamine tetraacetate (EDTA).

27. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 25, wherein the complementary substance is deferoxamine mesylate.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) is dissolved in a solvent which is compatible with an animal organism.

30. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 29, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of sterilized water, physiological NaCl solution, and a phosphate buffer solution ~~and alcohol~~.

31. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 29, wherein the solution contains a component to adjust the pH of the solution to a physiological value ranging from about 4.8 to about 8.1.

32. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 19, wherein, following administering administration of the solution to the patient and irradiation of the tissue or the cell lesion by the source of light energy, a fluorescence emitted by protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) generated by the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) contained in the solution is detected to facilitate diagnosis of the tissue or the cell lesion.

33. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation solution to be administered to a patient for at least one of diagnosis and treatment of tissue or a cell lesion followed by localized irradiation using a beam emitted by a source of light energy, the pharmaceutical preparation solution comprising:

a physiologically acceptable solvent;

an ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) for generating protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) which is dissolved in the solvent at a concentration of less than 1% by weight;

a solution pH in the range of from about 4.8 to about 8.1; and

a complementary substance for preventing transformation of protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) into a heme by iron complexing in live cells, the complementary substance selected from ethylene diamine tetraacetate (EDTA), and deferoxamine mesylate.

34. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 33, wherein the concentration of the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) in the solution ranges between 0.01 % by weight to 0.5% by weight.

35. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation solution according to claim 34, wherein, following administering the solution to the patient and irradiation of the tissue or the cell lesion by the source of light energy, a fluorescence emitted by protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) generated by the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) contained in the solution is detected to facilitate diagnosis of the tissue or the cell lesion.

36. (New) A method of diagnosis of a tissue or a cell lesion in an organism, said method comprising:

- (a) administering to the organism a pharmaceutical preparation comprising:
 - (i) a physiologically acceptable solvent; and
 - (ii) an ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) which is present in the pharmaceutical preparation at a concentration of less than 1% by weight;
- (b) irradiating the tissue or the cell lesion with a source of light energy; and
- (c) detecting fluorescence emitted by protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) generated by the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA).

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the concentration of the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) in the pharmaceutical preparation ranges between 0.01% by weight to 0.5% by weight.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) is a hexylester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (h-ALA).

39. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of sterilized water, physiological NaCl solution, and a phosphate buffer solution.

40. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation contains a component to adjust the pH of the pharmaceutical preparation to a physiological value ranging from about 4.8 to about 8.1.

41. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation comprises a complementary substance for preventing transformation of the protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) into a heme by iron complexing in the cells.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the complementary substance is ethylene diamine tetraacetate (EDTA).

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the complementary substance is deferoxamine mesylate.

44. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the organism is a human or an animal.

45. (New) A method of treatment of a tissue or a cell lesion in an organism, said method comprising:

- (a) administering to the organism a pharmaceutical preparation comprising:
 - (i) a physiologically acceptable solvent; and
 - (ii) an ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) which is present in the pharmaceutical preparation at a concentration of less than 1 % by weight; and
- (b) irradiating the tissue or the cell lesion with a source of light energy.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the concentration of the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) in the pharmaceutical preparation ranges between 0.01 % by weight to 0.5% by weight.

47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the ester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (E-ALA) is a hexylester of 5-aminolevulinic acid (h-ALA).

48. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of sterilized water, physiological NaCl solution, and a phosphate buffer solution.

49. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation contains a component to adjust the pH of the solution to a physiological value ranging from about 4.8 to about 8.1.

50. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation comprises a complementary substance for preventing transformation of the protoporphyrin IX (PpIX) into a heme by iron complexing in the cells.

51. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein the complementary substance is ethylene diamine tetraacetate (EDTA).

52. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein the complementary substance is deferoxamine mesylate.

53. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the organism is a human or an animal.